## From the Office of Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz

April 4, 2005 For Immediate Release

## STATEMENT OF SECRETARY OF THE STATE SUSAN BYSIEWICZ ON HER SUPPORT FOR VOTER VERIFIED PAPER RECEIPTS

**CONTACT:** Maura Downes

860/509-6259

"Ensuring voter confidence and the safety of our election process has always been my top priority. As we move to meet the federal requirement of one electronic voting machine for every polling place, the inclusion of a Voter Verified Paper Receipt on these machines is critical for ensuring that all votes are correctly cast and accurately counted. That is precisely why we are requiring all vendors vying for the contract to supply our electronic voting machines to show that they can adapt their machines to include a Voter Verified Paper Receipt should the legislature pass and the Governor sign into law legislation requiring it.

My office has worked closely with the Chairs of the GAE Committee to craft legislation that ensures the integrity of our voting system by mandating the use of Voter Verified Paper Receipts. In fact, the GAE Committee strengthened Senate Bill 55 by including additional fraud protection measures suggested by our office, such as a mandatory random audit of all electronic voting machines and the use of Voter Verified Paper Receipts in recounts.

I look forward to working with the members of the GAE Committee and Lt. Governor Sullivan to ensure that SB 55 becomes law."

\*\*\*END\*\*\*